

such property in any case except where it shall appear that the loss, damage, or destruction of property was due to carelessness or neglect, or that its loss, damage, or destruction could have been avoided by the exercise of reasonable care, in which case the money value of such property shall be charged to the accountable State, Territory, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or District of Columbia to be paid from State, Territory, Commonwealth, or District funds, or any funds other than Federal. If the articles so surveyed are found to be unserviceable or unsuitable, the appropriate Secretary or his designated representative shall direct what disposition by sale or otherwise shall be made of them; and if sold, the proceeds of such sale, as well as stoppages against officers and enlisted men, and the net proceeds of collections made from any person or from any State, Territory, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico or the District of Columbia to reimburse the Government for the loss, damage, or destruction of any property, shall be deposited in the Treasury of the United States: *Provided*, That if any State, Territory, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or the District of Columbia shall neglect or refuse to pay, or to cause to be paid, the money equivalent of any loss, damage, or destruction of property charged against such State, Territory, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or the District of Columbia by the appropriate Secretary after survey by a disinterested officer appointed as hereinbefore provided, the appropriate Secretary is hereby authorized to debar such State, Territory, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or the District of Columbia from further participation in any and all appropriations for the National Guard or Air National Guard, as appropriate, until such payment shall have been made: *Provided further*, That property issued to the National Guard and Air National Guard and which has become unserviceable through fair wear and tear in service, may, after inspection thereof and finding to that effect made by an officer of the Army of the United States, Air Force of the United States, or the National Guard or Air National Guard detailed by the appropriate Secretary, be sold or otherwise disposed of, and the State, Territory, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or the District of Columbia accountable shall be relieved from further accountability therefor; such inspection, and sale or other disposition, to be made under regulations prescribed by the appropriate Secretary, and to constitute as to such property a discretionary substitute for the examination, report, and disposition provided for elsewhere in this section."

Approved August 27, 1954.

## Public Law 677

## CHAPTER 1015

### AN ACT

To provide for the conveyance of certain lands by the United States to the county of Cumberland, State of North Carolina, without remuneration.

August 27, 1954  
[H. R. 6658]

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That the Administrator of General Services is authorized and directed to convey by deed to the county of Cumberland, State of North Carolina, without remuneration, all the right, title, and interest of the United States in and to that tract of land situated in Carvers Creek Township, Cumberland County, North Carolina, described in the plat prepared by D. A. Buie in July 1953 containing fifty-seven and eight-tenths acres, more or less, and more particularly described as follows:

Cumberland  
County, N. C.  
Conveyance.

Beginning at a stake on the bank of the Cape Fear River, the same being the southeast corner of the tract of which this is a part, and running thence with the southern line of the said tract, south eighty-eight degrees no minutes two thousand two hundred and ninety-seven feet to a stake in the old canal; thence with the said old canal north twenty-five degrees forty-one minutes east one thousand six hundred and fourteen feet to a stake in said canal, also in the northern line of the tract of which this is a part; thence with the northern line of said tract south seventy-eight degrees fifty-five minutes east one thousand six hundred and forty-three feet to a stake on the bank of the Cape Fear River, the northeast corner of the tract of which this is a part; thence with the Cape Fear River, a calculated course, south thirty minutes east one thousand one hundred and twenty-two feet to the beginning, containing fifty-seven and eight-tenths acres more or less, being the eastern part of a tract of land described in a deed from Alexander E. Cook and wife, Frances W. Cook, to the United States of America, dated December 31, 1938, recorded in Book 409, page 300, in the office of the Register of Deeds for Cumberland County, North Carolina.

SEC. 2. The property herein described shall not be used for any purpose which is detrimental to the Veterans' Administration for a period of twenty years.

Approved August 27, 1954.

## Public Law 678

## CHAPTER 1016

### AN ACT

August 27, 1954  
[H. R. 8155]

To continue until the close of June 30, 1955, the suspension of duties and import taxes on metal scrap, and for other purposes.

#### Metal scrap.

67 Stat. 487.  
19 USC 1001,  
par. 301 note.

65 Stat. 44.  
26 USC 3425  
note.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That the first sentence of section 2 of the Act of September 30, 1950 (Public Law 869, Eighty-first Congress), is hereby amended by striking out "June 30, 1954" and inserting in lieu thereof "June 30, 1955": *Provided*, That this Act shall not apply to lead scrap or zinc scrap (other than zinc scrap purchased under a written contract entered into before July 1, 1954).

SEC. 2. The amendment made by the first section of this Act shall not be construed to affect in any way the application of Public Law 38, Eighty-second Congress, to copper scrap.

Approved August 27, 1954.

## Public Law 679

## CHAPTER 1017

### AN ACT

August 27, 1954  
[H. R. 8634]

To amend section 22 of the Organic Act of Guam.

Guam.  
District Court  
procedure.  
48 USC 1424.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled*, That subsection (b) of section 22 of the Organic Act of Guam (64 Stat. 389), is amended by striking out the period at the end of such subsection and inserting in lieu thereof the following: "; except that no provisions of any such rules which authorize or require trial by jury or the prosecution of offenses by indictment by a grand jury instead of by information shall be applicable to the District Court of Guam unless and until made so applicable by laws enacted by the Legislature of Guam, and except